

Abstract for “Inequality and Poverty: Some Global Updates and Estimation of a Panel of Income Distributions for Africa”

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With the release of the 2011 purchasing power parity data from the International Comparison Program (ICP) and the availability of more country-specific income distribution data over recent years, it is now possible to update previous work investigating changes in global and regional inequality and poverty. Chotikapanich et al (2012) estimated global and regional inequalities for 1993 and 2000. Warner et al (2013) extend the results to include those for 2005 by making use of purchasing power parity data from the 2005 ICP round.

The present paper has two objectives. First, we aim to update previous estimates for inequality and poverty for 1993, 2000 and 2005 using the purchasing power parity data from the 2011 ICP round, and to extend the estimates to include the results for 2011. Second, given the importance of the effect of the global financial crisis on Africa (Milanovic 2009), we compile a panel of income distributions for a large number of countries in Africa for the years between 1993 and 2011. Since annual country-specific income distribution data for every country are non-existent, and regular data over other time periods are relatively scarce, we develop a technique to interpolate and extrapolate income distributions for years and countries for which no data are available. Extensive and comprehensive analysis is done on the change in income distributions, inequality and poverty for the region as a whole and for relative movements between countries in the region.

References

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